[*Translation*]

Repair of National Highways Passing Through Varanasi District

5234. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways passing through Varanasi district are in bad shape;

(b) if so, the places where these roads require immediate repairs and the steps being taken in this regard;

(c) the total amount spent on the repairs of the National Highways passing through this district during 1990-91; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. All the National Highways are generally in traffic-worthy condition. Maintenance of the National Highways is a continuous operation and repairs are carried out as and when noticed subject to the availability of funds.

(c) Funds for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways are allotted state-wise and not district-wise. During 1990-91 and amount of Rs. 11.085 crores was allotted for Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh. An expenditure of Rs. 11.42 crores has been reported by the State Government against the allocation for maintaining the National Highways network.

(d) Tentatively an amount of Rs. 13.58 crores has been earmarked for Maintenance and Repair of National Highways in Uttar Pradesh for 1991-92.

[*English*]

Loan Schemes for Weaker Sections

5235. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRI DATTARAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes under which loans are advanced by banks to the weaker sections;

(b) the amount of loans sanctioned under these schemes during each of the last three years, till date, scheme-wise; and State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to squeeze the credit under these schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the alternative arrangements proposed to be made for providing adequate credit facilities to the weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The commercial banks participate in the programmes sponsored by the Government to enable the identified beneficiaries to pursue viable schemes for their economic upliftment. In addition to the above, the banks also frame the schemes on their own to assist weaker sections of the society by way of providing loans to them for productive ventures. It has been enjoined upon them that 10% of their total advances should be for weaker sections of the society. Amongst the Government programmes, the Integrated Rural Development Programme